

# RECYCLING EFFICIENCY INCENTIVE GRANT

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Question #1:** I represent a county that officially merged with at least one Responsible Unit (RU) between October 31, 2004, and April 30, 2005. Am I eligible for REI funding in 2006?

**Question #2:** My city is currently in negotiations with a neighboring town to officially consolidate our recycling programs. Will I be eligible for REI funding in 2006?

**Question #3:** How can my RU be eligible for REI grant funds in 2006?

**Question #4:** What does having an efficiency “in place” mean in grant years 2006 and future grant years?

**Question #5:** To be eligible for REI grant funding in 2007 and future grant years, what do I need to do?

**Answer #1:** This “good deed”, makes it possible for you to use this criteria to be eligible for REI grant funding in 2006.

**Answer #2:** Section 287.09, Wis. Stats., provides for the formal consolidation of responsible units (RU) by agreements under s. 66.0301, Wis. Stats. As long as the consolidation follows those requirements and is accepted by the DNR before April 30, 2005, and is effective by April 30, 2005, the new RU will be eligible to apply for REI funds in 2006.

**Answer #3:** If you do either of the following, your responsible unit (RU) will be eligible for REI funds in 2006:

- 1- Is a county, city, town, or village RU that has formally consolidated with another city, town, or village RU between October 31, 2004, and April 30, 2005, and consolidation will be in place by April 30, 2005.
- 2- Enter into a written cooperative agreement with another RU between October 31, 2004, and April 30, 2005, AND the written cooperative agreement meets all the requirements of s. NR 549.08(4)(b), with the agreement in place by April 30, 2005.

**Answer #4:** “In place” means that the claimed efficiency in the cooperative agreement commences by April 30<sup>th</sup> of the year application is made, or, the cooperative agreement includes an implementation schedule that all or the majority of the efficiency will be completed by October 30<sup>th</sup> of the grant application year.  
Example #4: The City of Beauty and the Town of Beautiful sign a cooperative agreement on March 31, 2005, that identifies the efficiency to be achieved or includes an implementation schedule. To receive 2006 funding, all or most of the efficiency activities needs to occur between October 31, 2004 and October 30, 2005.

**Answer #5:** For REI grant funding in 2007 and beyond, the claimed efficiency must have been implemented between October 31<sup>st</sup> of the previous year and April 30<sup>th</sup> of the year in which the application is made. The claimed efficiency must have been in place by April 30<sup>th</sup> of the year in which the application is made.

Example #5: The City of Beauty and the Town of Beautiful signed onto a cooperative agreement on December 31, 2005. The agreement will be effective on January 1, 2006. Having taken this action by these dates, both Responsible Units will be eligible to apply in October 2006 for grants that will be awarded in 2007.

**Question #6:** Will my REI grant award come in a separate check?

**Question #7:** By what date must I submit an application for 2006 REI grants?

**Question #8:** How much additional grant funding can I expect to receive as a result of my eligibility for an REI grant in 2006?

**Answer #6:** For the 2006 grant year, REI grant awards will be distributed as a separate check.

**Answer #7:** The administrative rule for the Recycling Efficiency Incentive grant program indicates that the postmark deadline is October 30 of each year. However, in 2005, October 30 falls on a Sunday. To be fair when this occurs, Wisconsin statutes allow applications to be postmarked as late as Monday, October 31.

The postmark deadline for the *Recycling Grants to Responsible Units* (also known as the “basic grant”) remains **October 1<sup>st</sup>** (to receive the full grant amount). Since the DNR has combined the application materials for both grant programs in 2006, you’ll still need to postmark that portion of the application for the basic grant by October 1<sup>st</sup> in order to receive full funding and not be penalized. We suggest that you postmark the applications for **both** grant programs by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The important deadlines for the basic recycling grant follow:

Applications postmarked by:	Receive the Following % of Eligible Application Request :
October 1	100
October 10	95
October 20	90
October 30	75
November 1	0

**Answer #8:** It's difficult to estimate how much any RU might receive through the REI grant program until all the applications are in. The reasons are as follows:

- 1- The number of RUs that apply varies each year.
- 2- Because we don't know the number of RUs that will apply, we don't know the total population of all successful applicants and are unable to provide an exact per capita award amount.

REI grant awards to each grantee are tied to the net eligible costs from the grant year 2 years before (in this case, 2004). It is likely that REI grant awards in some cases will not = (population x per capita amount). Any reduction in an REI grant award because of this statutory twist would mean that a corresponding amount of REI funds are freed up to be awarded to other eligible applicants... until those applicants reach their net eligible costs from calendar year 2004.

Having explained all that, here's a really REALLY rough estimate:

$$\begin{array}{r} \$1,900,000 \text{ (total REI grant \$ available)} \\ \underline{5,000,000 \text{ (est. population of WI)}} \\ = 38 \text{ cents per person} \end{array}$$